

## Legislative Services

September 26, 2023

Web-site: www.forterie.ca

File #120203

Sent via email: ann-marie.norio@niagararegion.ca

Ann-Marie Norio, Regional Clerk Niagara Region 1815 Sir Isaac Brock Way, P. O. Box 1042 Thorold, ON L2V 4T7

Dear Ms. Norio:

Re: Region's 2024 Operating Budget Levy Approval

The Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its Special meeting of September 25, 2023 passed the following resolution:

**Whereas** the Niagara Region taxes form a significant portion of the overall tax bill that is issued by the local area municipality; and

Whereas the Niagara Region approved a 7.58% increase to the Regional Operating Budget Levy, 8.59% increase to the Water and Wastewater Levy, and a 5.5% increase to the Waste Management Levy, which outpaced the ability to pay and affordability of our local taxpayers; and

**Whereas** Niagara Region and Local Area Municipalities recognize that the post-pandemic economy, market inflation and housing shortages are a reality which have driven up costs for basic housing and food above the means of many residents.

**Therefore be it resolved that** the Niagara Regional Council be requested to ensure that the Region's 2024 Operating Budget Levy be approved at or below the current rate of inflation 3.7%, as a responsible, affordability measure for the residents of Niagara; and

**That:** This resolution be circulated to the Region and all local area municipalities for their support and endorsement.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Peter Todd.

Manager, Legislative Services / Town Clerk

ptodd@forterie.ca

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